

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 03936 240937Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SAA-01 SES-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /077 W
-----093924 241934Z /64

R 240522Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8279
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
RUDKBT/AMEMBASSY RABAT 323
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 3936

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, SU, XF
SUBJ: ARAB LEAGUE SEC GEN VISITS KHARTOUM

1. ARAB LEAGUE SEC GEN MAHMOUD RIAD MADE BRIEF VISIT TO
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PAGE 02 KHARTO 03936 240937Z

KHARTOUM EARLY THIS WEEK. AFTER BRIEFING NIMEIRI FOR
NINETY MINUTES TUESDAY HE LEFT FOR CAIRO. ACCORDING LOCAL
PRESS REPORTS, TWO MEN DISCUSSED LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN
ARAB REGION AS WELL AS PREPARATIONS FOR FORTHCOMING ARAB
LEAGUE COUNCIL. IN INTERVIEW WITH SUNA RIAD PRAISED
NIMEIRI'S QUOTE VERY GREAT EFFORTS/TOWARD CLOSING ARAB
RANKS UNQUOTE. HIS REMARKS RE RESULTS OF HIS TOUR OF

SYRIA, JORDAN, IRAQ AND ARABIAN PENINSULA STATES WERE EXTREMELY VAGUE AND GENERAL. HOWEVER, HE INDICATED THAT FINAL REPLIES RE PROPOSED ARAB FOREIGN MINISTER'S CONFERENCE WERE STILL BEING AWAITED. HE SAID QUOTE STAGE NOT YET SET FOR SUMMIT. UNQUOTE

2. COMMENT: WE HAVE NOT YET HAD OPPORTUNITY DISCUSS RIAD VISIT AND PROPOSED ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL MEETING IN KHARTOUM WITH ANY KNOWLEDGEABLE OFFICIALS HERE. HOWEVER, PRESS REPORTS OF RIAD-NIMEIRI TALKS SOUND QUITE VAGUE AND EVEN NEGATIVE CONSIDERING MEETING IS SUPPOSED TO BEGIN SOON. PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR NOTED SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WILL BE TRAVELLING ON OFFICIAL VISITS IN SEPTEMBER, AND NIMEIRI HIMSELF MAY BE MEETING WITH MENGISTU (SEPT 12, NOT 14) DURING SAME PERIOD. FROM MID-SEPTEMBER ON NIMEIRI, WHO WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS FOREIGN MINISTER, WILL BE IN U.S. AND EUROPE UNTIL SOME TIME IN OCTOBER. IN ADDITION, OF COURSE, THERE WILL BE CAMP DAVID MEETINGS. SO FAR, NO ONE HERE HAS SAID OPENLY THAT KHARTOUM ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE POSTPONED, BUT IT IS HARD TO SEE HOW MEETING CAN BE SQUEEZED IN AFTER '82 AND BEFORE EVERYONE STARTS HIS SEPTEMBER TRAVELS.
BOGOSIAN

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